

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b), the Applicant request that the below-identified paragraphs from the specification be replaced as indicated:

Beginning on page 5, line 8, running through page 6, line 6, deleted the existing paragraph entitled "Brief Description of the Drawings" and replace it with the following:

**--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Other objects, features, and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description of the preferred embodiment and certain modifications thereof when taken together with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective side view of a floating island planting system 2 according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a side cross-section view of the float ring 4 and nested planter 16 as in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a top view of the float ring 4 and nested planter 16 as in FIGs. 1 & 2.

FIG. 4 is a side cross-section view of the floating island planting system 2 as in FIGs. 1-3 illustrating a shallow float configuration.

FIG. 5 is a side cross-section view of the floating island planting system 2 as in FIGs. 1-3 illustrating a deep float configuration.

FIG. 6 is a side cross-section of the floating island planting system 2 as in FIGs. 1-5 illustrating a three layer mix.

FIG. 7 is a side perspective photo of the floating island planting system 2 as in FIGs. 1-3 in use as a self-watering planter.

FIG. 8 is a side perspective photo of an alternative embodiment of a planting system 120.

FIG. 9 is a side cross-section view of the planter 140 as in FIG. 8.

FIG. 10 is a top view of the planter 140 as in FIGs. 8 & 9.

FIG. 11 is a side perspective of yet another embodiment of a floating raft system 200.--

Replace the fourth paragraph beginning on line 17, page 6 with the following paragraph (shown in redline):

--The float ring 4 is formed from ~~a strip of~~ closed-cell polyethylene foam and may be constructed from a pre-cut strip of said foam that is heat sealed end-to-end to provide an inner diameter  $d$ . One skilled in the art will understand that alternative foam construction methods are available such as molding or die-cutting from raw foam sheet material. The bowl of planter 16 is sized to nest inside the inner diameter  $d$  of ring 4, and is slidably inserted into float ring 4 until the collar of planter 16 abuts the float ring 4 (as shown), and planter 16 is then partially filled to a predetermined depth (as will be described) with a fill 20 mix 7, 8. The fill mix may be topped with other decorative materials such as gravel or wood pellets for aesthetic purposes. The fill mix preferably comprises a blend of calcined montmorillonite clay substrate and potting soil as will be described. However, one skilled in the art should understand that a similar effect may be achieved with other mixes such as regular garden dirt and other substrates.—